

Your Name: Trevor Benson

## Form for Evaluating Internet Information Resources

(NOTE: This form is not for evaluating productivity software/sites, how-to sites, definition pages, simulation games/sites, educational software/games/sites, or any other Web site except a narrative text, encyclopedia-type information page)

1. **URL of Web page being evaluated:** <http://eschooltoday.com/ecosystems/what-is-an-ecosystem.html>
2. **Primary use (students, teacher, parent, other,...):** The primary use of the site is informing people, whether parent or student, about scientific, social, and health issues. The site's information and structure is geared for younger students, but can still be used by people of all ages.

---

*Questions 3-9 are about the site that is hosting your page.*

3. **Truncate the URL of the Web page. What is the domain name of the Web site?**  
<http://eschooltoday.com/>
4. **What is the name of Web site?** eSchoolToday
5. **What is the purpose or goal of this Web site?** The goal of this website is to inform as many different people as it can, about scientific, health, and social issues.
6. **What organization or individual created this site?** It was created by three individuals: Nii Noi Odonkor, Margaret Allotey-Pappoe, and George Asamoah Frimpong.
7. **What affiliations/partners does this site have?** Businessghana.com
8. **What kind of bias does this site have? (Note: every site has a bias, you just have to be aware of what that bias is and be prepared to defend it or present information from other viewpoints.)** I think that the information is based on what business in Ghana would want people to know. That is what the site they are linked to is. It is a portal that links people to all the business that are inside of Ghana, Africa. This is the only site that eSchool claims to be affiliated with.
9. **What other types of organizations link to this site? (Using the Google search engine, type *link:* and the Web site address (example: *link:www.website.com* ) )** The site only links to itself. When I typed in the search, the first three pages had nothing but links to its own page.
10. **Is there a way to provide feedback on the Web site and create an exchange with the author or Web site manager?** Yes, there is. The site provides an email address to make it possible to email one of the site creators with questions and comments.

---

*Questions 10-12 are about the specific page that has information for your project/unit:*

11. **Who is the author of the page and does that person have valid credentials to present this information (the creator of the site is not always the author of a page within the site)?** The specific section of the site I would want my students to use does not provide an author. It would be my best inference that the author of this section of the website was created by one of the three authors of the entire site that I listed in question number six.

**12. What other references are cited for the information presented?**

1. [quizlet.com/4832366/741-levels-of-organization-within-an-ecosystem-flash-cards/](http://quizlet.com/4832366/741-levels-of-organization-within-an-ecosystem-flash-cards/),
2. [www.slideshare.net/MakeMegenius/pond-ecosystem](http://www.slideshare.net/MakeMegenius/pond-ecosystem),
3. [www.phschool.com/science/ca\\_sci\\_exp\\_transparencies/earth\\_sci\\_unit5.pdf](http://www.phschool.com/science/ca_sci_exp_transparencies/earth_sci_unit5.pdf), BBC BITESIZE, 4,
4. [www.mysciencebox.org/foodchain](http://www.mysciencebox.org/foodchain), [www.neok12.com/quiz/ECOSYS01](http://www.neok12.com/quiz/ECOSYS01),
5. [www.geography.learnontheinternet.co.uk/topics/whatecosystem.html#biomes](http://www.geography.learnontheinternet.co.uk/topics/whatecosystem.html#biomes),
6. [library.thinkquest.org/11353/ecosystems.htm](http://library.thinkquest.org/11353/ecosystems.htm)
7. California Academy of Sciences., The World Biomes.
8. [www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/exhibits/biomes/index.php](http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/exhibits/biomes/index.php)
9. [www.worldbiomes.com/default.htm](http://www.worldbiomes.com/default.htm)

**13. How old is the material on the page? Is it current or outdated (copyright year is not the same as the last update)?** The site and information was last updated on January 25, 2015.

---

*Final evaluation questions:*

**14. Are there ads linked to the page or the site that might make this page inappropriate for your audience? Are the ads “sticky” or static? If there are no ads, how is this Web site paid for (where do they get their money)?** There are very limited ads on the site, and the site make sure to inform the user in the about us section that the ads that go onto the site are controlled by the creators. The ads are “sticky” and lead to sites that are also information based. Such as ads for quizzes and games for students of all ages.

**15. Is there other content on the site that appears affiliated with the information you’ve selected that might make this page inappropriate (a Web site with great tutorials on how to make good movies with sections on how to make a documentary, a biography, an infomercial, etc. might also have a tutorial on making an inappropriate movie)?** This site does not have any connections (that I can find) with any site or piece of information that would be inappropriate. All the information on the site is geared towards students at a younger age and doesn't have links to any site that would break the mold of that.

**16. Reviewing your answers above, is this a good page/site to use for your project/unit? Why or why not? (NOTE: Some questions above may not apply to your page; there is no rule as to how many “correct” answers are needed for a page to be good or what constitutes a “bad” page. You just need to be able to justify your choices and the information above can provide good support.)** I think that this site is very good resource for the GRASP project that I will have my students create. I believe this because the site is sponsored by only one site, and the site does not seem to be a major contributor to the website's funds. This would seem so because the website is non-profit and they still need to run ads to have enough cash to have the site remain online. The ads that they do run are still education based and are sticky. The site chooses the ads that it keeps on its site, which I also think is a very good sign that the creators want the site to remain educational. The last reason I believe that eSchool is a very good site is because the information that they put on the site are all things that I have learned in my college courses. There doesn't appear to be any information on ecosystems (the section of the site I am using) that doesn't match the information I would want to teach to my students.